

**Robert Wushinske**  
**Rural Route 2**  
**New Wilmington, Pennsylvania 16142**

January 10, 2002

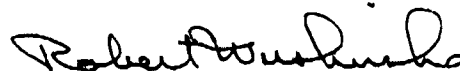
Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The purpose of this is to address the Department of Justice and Microsoft settlement. This was settled after a long, litigious battle costing both parties time and money. I do not believe Microsoft was culpable of any antitrust practices. The lawsuit is more a product of envious competitors than actual misdeeds. Microsoft did acquiesce to demands by the Department of Justice, opening up their source codes to computer manufacturers and competitors, giving more flexibility to computer makers to install non-Microsoft programs, expanding Windows' operating system products, and even allowing a technical committee to monitor Microsoft's adherence to the settlement. This is far more than any other firm would have done.

But the history behind the case is no longer relevant. A decision has been reached and I do not want to second-guess decisions reached by both parties. Microsoft had very good counsel; an equitable agreement was reached. It is now time to move on. We should not get into the habit of criticizing judicial decisions simply because they do not please everybody. It sets a bad precedent and undermines any future decisions.

Sincerely,

  
Robert Wushinske

cc: Senator Rick Santorum